

Claims

1. System for displaying a portfolio comprising a computer-legible data memory with a database system
5 with stored therein basic objects (100, 400, 500), each of which is clearly linked to one or more basic data (120, 412, 420, 512, 520), where the basic objects (100, 400, 500) are allocated to one or more structural units (152, 154, 150) in a multi-dimensional hierarchical model of a company or an institution (140), and
10 the structural units (152, 154, 150) are stored in a relational database, and the basic objects (100) allocated to the individual structural units (152, 154, 150) can be displayed with one or more basic data (120) selectively or as a whole.
- 15 2. System according to claim 1, characterised in that one or more users (432, 532) are stored in the database system and can each be allocated to one or more of the stored structural units (452, 454, 450; 552, 554, 550) and these users (432, 532) can selectively display only the basic objects (455, 555) belonging to the structural units to which these users (432, 532) are allocated.
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3. System according to claim 1 or 2, characterised in that the basic data (120, 412, 420, 512, 520) are hierarchy-dependent and/or hierarchy-independent.
4. System according to any of claims 1 to 3, characterised in that at least one basic object (100, 400, 500) is linked to one or more other basic objects (100, 400, 500).
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5. System according to any of claims 1 to 4, characterised in that various basic objects (100, 400, 500) are linked to the same hierarchy (140).

6. System according to any of claims 1 to 5, characterised in that the basic objects (100, 400, 500) are patent applications/patents (400), contracts (500) or products.

- 5 7. System according to any of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the basic objects (100, 400, 500) are patent applications/patents (400) and the basic data (120, 412, 420) are priority dates, countries in which applications have been made and for these countries the application number and date, publication number and date, granting number and date, due date for patent fees, durations, patent expiry dates, examination request dates, information on whether objections or appeals have been submitted, cancellation date, applicant and/or inventor.

- 10 8. System according to any of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the basic objects (100, 400, 500) are patent applications/patents (400) and the basic data (120, 412, 420) contain information on the organisation and charging of activities for patent applications/patents within the company or institution, such as decision bodies and their resolutions, internal decision dates, products for which inventor royalties are paid, accounts for charging of costs, competent patent attorney or agent, and/or status of the entire patent family (in force, expired, lapsed).

- 15 9. System according to any of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the basic objects (500) are contracts, and the basic data (120, 512, 520) contain information on the contract type, licence type, contract partner, supplier/client, contract start, contract end, signature dates, object of the contract, contract status (e.g. in force, terminated), contract language, countries concerned.

- 20 10. System according to any of claims 1 to 6, characterised in that the basic objects (100) are products, and the basic data (120) contain information on the products such as turnover, profit.

11. System according to any of claims 1 to 10, characterised in that the multi-dimensional, hierarchical model reflects a science/technology-based structure and an economics-based structure of the company or institution.

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12. System according to any of claims 1 to 11, characterised in that the computer-legible data memory is located in a central computer (10) which is connected with one or more user terminals (60, 70), which each have an input device and a display device to display the selected basic objects (100),
10 so that data can be exchanged electronically between the central computer (10) and the user terminals (60, 70).